

MEETING DOCUMENT

Wadden Sea Board (WSB 32)

4 March 2021
Online meeting



Agenda Item:	5.5 Science Cooperation
Subject:	Trilateral Programming Committee on Wadden Sea Research Progress Report
Document No.:	WSB 32/5.5
Date:	11 February 2021
Submitted by:	Chair of the TPC-WSR/CWSS

At the last WSB in June 2020, the WSB agreed with the nominations of the chair and the members for the Trilateral Programming Committee on Wadden Sea Research (TPC-WSR) as well as with the Terms of Reference for this Committee.

The installment meeting of the TPC-WSR took place on 15 September 2020 in Hamburg. Karin Lochte, former chair of the TRA-Road Map Committee, the Committee who paved the way for the installment of this TPC-WSR, welcomed the members and explained the background and she summarized her expectations for the future on this science-management interface by 4 p's:

- Platform: the need to have a trilateral science network
- Programming: the need to establish research programmes, of interest for all three countries. One country may take the lead, but it should be shared by all
- Prioritisation: what are the urgent questions to be tackled
- Payment: it is essential to find funding, otherwise you don't make a step forward beyond coordination

The chair of the TPC-WSR Bernd Scherer started by stating that he was pleased to accept the position of chair, being convinced of the importance of a better connection between science and societal needs and questions, let alone the importance of ongoing fundamental research. In his view this group would only be successful if it manages to collect, coordinate and make the link to funding of research relevant to the Wadden Sea World Heritage.

In its first meeting the group defined several success criteria as a guidance and to assess the production of the Joint trilateral programme on research issues. These were a.o. the right definition of questions relevant to the Wadden Sea OUV, interest of the community, knowledge base within the scientific community, funding

availability, improvement of monitoring, cooperation cross border and cross sectoral science engagement.

A small Drafting Group was established under the chairmanship of Bernd Scherer with one representative of each country to produce a first short draft paper as a basis for further discussion. For this first draft also site managers/authorities were consulted to give their input on the most relevant research questions they have.

At the 2nd plenary meeting on 5 February 2021, this draft paper was used as a basis for the discussion to find common ground on how to proceed in prioritising themes and research topics, taking into account the existing differences in attracting potential funding in the three countries. This process of further prioritisation and refinement will be intensified and continued, with a clear and more close connection to the funding requirements. A 3rd plenary meeting is envisaged to take place end of March .
The list of members of the TPC-WSR is annexed to this progress report.

Proposal: The WSB is invited

- To note the progress report.

Members of the Trilateral Programming Committee on Wadden Sea Research - TPC-WSR

Denmark	
Mr Jesper Bartholdy (Research) Associate professor University of Copenhagen	Mr Lauritz B. Holm-Nielsen (Policy) Chair Danish Nature Fund
Erik Jespersen (Policy) CEO of Engineering and Environment at the Municipality of Esbjerg	Mr Flemming Just (Research) Managing Director Museums of South West Jutland
Germany (Federal, Hamburg, Lower Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein)	
Mr Christian Buschbaum (Research) Head of North Sea Office, Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI) Working group Community and Evolutionary Ecology	Mr Joachim Harms (Policy) Head of Marine Research, Geosciences, Ship and Marine Technology bei Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Projekträger Jülich
Mr Peter Südbeck (Policy) Head of National Park Wadden Sea Lower Saxony	Ms Anja Wollesen (Research) Vice President FH Westküste, University of Applied Science, Heide in Schleswig-Holstein; Tourism, International Tourism Management
Netherlands	
Ms C.J.M. (Katja) Philippart (Research) Professor at Utrecht University, NIOZ, Chair Wadden Academy	Ms Jeannette Plokker (Policy) Manager Water Quality and Nature Protection Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management Rijkswaterstaat
Mr Jouke van Dijk (Research) Professor at University of Groningen, Wadden Academy	Mr Jack Vera (Policy) Knowledge & Innovation Directorate at Ministry of Agriculture, Nature & Food Quality
Chair & Invited Guests	
Mr Bernd Scherer (Chair) Former Deputy Head of Department „Water Management, Marine Conservation and Coastal Protection“ in the Ministry for Energy Transition, Agriculture, Environment and Rural Areas of the state of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany	Ms Karin Lichte Chairperson of the Wadden Sea Board, Deutsche Allianz Meeresforschung, GEOMAR Helmholtz-Centre for Ocean Research Kiel
Secretary	
Mr Bernard Baerends Executive Secretary Common Wadden Sea Secretariat	Mr Sascha Klöpffer Deputy Executive Secretary Common Wadden Sea Secretariat